

REMARKS

The applicant hereby elects the invention of Group I, with traverse.

Applicant traverses the restriction as it pertains to restricting among Groups I, II, III, and IV (Claims 1-63, 68-71 and 77-79). As an aside, Applicant notes that Claim 50 was not included in the Restriction Requirement; however Applicant believes that it should be included in Group II as it depends from Claim 26. The Examiner predicated the restriction upon the groups not having the same or corresponding special technical features because the Examiner believes that Taylor et al discloses a balloon comprising a first part and a second part with first and second inflation characteristics which demonstrates the common technical feature is not novel. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's assessment of the reference. Taylor et al. discloses a balloon having a complex and perhaps unique shape that is tailored to the patient, but Taylor et al. does not disclose or describe balloons having first and second portions having differential inflation characteristics. This includes both the description of the balloon itself and how the balloon is made. Accordingly, claims of Groups I-IV share a common or corresponding special technical feature and should not be subject to restriction.

Applicant further elects Species 6 (Figure 13). Applicant wishes to point out to the examiner that Figures 14 and 15 illustrate use of a balloon as in Figure 13 with a stent mounted thereon. Accordingly, Applicant notes that Claims 1-63, 68-71 and 77-79 read upon the balloon of Figure 13.

No Disclaimers or Disavowals

Although the present communication may include alterations to the application or claims, or characterizations of claim scope or referenced art, Applicant is not conceding in this application that previously pending claims are not patentable over the cited references. Rather, any alterations or characterizations are being made to facilitate expeditious prosecution of this application. Applicant reserves the right to pursue at a later date any previously pending or other broader or narrower claims that capture any subject matter supported by the present disclosure, including subject matter found to be specifically disclaimed herein or by any prior prosecution. Accordingly, reviewers of this or any parent, child or related prosecution history shall not reasonably infer that Applicant has made any disclaimers or disavowals of any subject matter supported by the present application.


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Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

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By: 
Karoline A. Delaney
Registration No. 44,058
Attorney of Record
Customer No. 20995
(949) 760-0404

8206811
120309